From:

Joan Swain <jkswain36@att.net>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 11:44 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

SB 1350 - hunting wolves

Hello Mr. Mead - I am urging your guidance on voting "No" on the upcoming SB 1350 which would put Michigan wolves in the cross-hairs of hunters.

Wolves are the most misunderstood and maligned species. They are a key ingredient in a healthy ecosystem. There is no justifiable reason to put Michigan's (my) wolves on the hunt/kill list.

Let's have Michigan lead the way for sane treatment of wolves. Let's recognize their value. I urge you and those in your influence to vote NO on SB 1350.

Sincerely, Joan Swain

From:

Dominic Greco < grecog7@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 11:37 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

SB 1350

To whom it may concern:

My name is Dominic.

I am emailing to urge David Mead to vote "NO" on SB 1350.

Thank you for the opportunity.

Dominic

#### Dominic Greco

Photographer

Dom Greco Photo (www.domgrecophoto.com)

Phone: (818) 216-8364

From:

Nicholas Daum <freestylenickd@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 11:42 AM

To:

David Mead; Rep. Frank Foster

Subject:

SB 1350

Hon. Representatives Mead & Foster,

I am a voter in the 93rd House District and I would like to share some prepared comments with the House Committee regarding Senate Bill 1350. I plan on attending the 9am meeting on Tuesday, December 4th. Please let me know if there is anything I need to do ahead of time in order to gain access and present my comments.

Sincerely, Nicholas Daum 407 W Park St St Johns, MI 48879 989-292-9280

From:

Virginia Holden <vhh@me.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 11:35 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

**Hunting Wolves** 

There being no scientific evidence of the need to kill wolves, there is no justifiable reason why they should they be hunted. There is only an unjustified rationale: than to satisfy those bent on the "fun" and bragging rights of killing. That said, there are lots of things that need fixing on this planet. Perhaps there are higher endeavors these folks might turn to if they were encouraged toward doing something wiser and more beneficial with their time.

Virginia Hamilton Holden, Esq. 9121 Garr Road Berrien Springs, MI 49103

From:

Jade <mscileppi@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 11:38 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

vote "NO" on SB 1350 !!

# ACTION NEEDED NOW FOR MICHIGAN'S WOLVES!!!! Tell them to vote NO!!

December 3 · Started by <u>Heidi Ulrich</u> · Reposts  $\underline{1}$ 



The fate of Michigan's wolves is on the chopping block --- please don't hesitate, make contacts today! See below--

# URGENT ACTION ALERT FOR MICHIGAN'S WOLVES!!!!

Wolf supporters we need your 'action' today to save the wolves from an upcoming barbaric hunt in Michigan---the wolf hunting bill is in House Committee---- we are asking that you contact these two House Committee
members and encourage them to vote "NO" on SB 1350!!

Even if you don't live in Michigan, you can still comment but it would be more helpful if you made a connection between you and Michigan, for example--your plans to visit Michigan (tourist dollars), your support of outdoor recreation in Michigan, and that you are a strong consumer of Michigan's products like Kelloggs, GM, Chrysler, Whirlpool and Amana appliances.

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Jade <mscileppi@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 11:38 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

vote "NO" on SB 1350 !!

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Jade Scile

From:

Karen Burroughs <karen@lustre.us>

Sent: To:

Monday, December 03, 2012 11:24 AM David Mead; Rep. Frank Foster

Subject:

Vote "NO" on SB 1350 !!

My mother was born in Lansing and I have family there. We also have some property in that area.

I will never set foot in Michigan again. That's how angry I am about the killing of wolves there.

What a disservice to the people of this country you have committed. You hurt the ecosystems there and made a mockery of the American love for these apex animals. You ignored science and decided to cater to the ignorant ranchers...just like so many corrupt state and local governments out there. I will buy nothing from Michigan and will make sure my social media educates everyone to the ignorance and selfish policy taken by your state under your leadership. My daughter is shopping today for a refrigerator. Whirlpool, as her old one was, is OFF the table as an option and I intend to let them know why as well. Same with Amana. I won't even eat Kellogg's cereal again. As with the others, I will write and let them know why. I was a long time student of ecology and ecosystems. I understand how they work. I wonder how much you really know. Or does the money from lobbying presence take the place of knowledge?

This can all change and my family can again be proud of Michigan if we see an acceptance of the will of the people, not just a few. Vote NO ON SB 1350 and show you have not all lost your ethics and sense.

Dr. Wayne and Mrs. Karen Burroughs

From:

Dominic Greco < grecog7@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 11:37 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

SB 1350

To whom it may concern:

My name is Dominic.

I am emailing to urge David Mead to vote "NO" on SB 1350.

Thank you for the opportunity.

Dominic

#### Dominic Greco

Photographer

Dom Greco Photo (www.domgrecophoto.com)

Phone: (818) 216-8364

From:

Jodi Louth <jlouth3@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 11:14 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

please vote NO on SB 1350

Dear House Natural Resources, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Committee,

Please vote NO on SB 1350. Michigan wolves should not be hunted.

Sincerely,

Doug & Jodi Louth Saline, MI

From:

diane lewis <dianeslewis@bellsouth.net>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 11:14 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Vote

Please vote "NO" on SB 1350. The killing must stop. Where is our moral compass?

From:

Mila Dmitriev-Odier < mila.odier@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 11:12 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Please vote "NO" on SB 1350.

Dear Mr. David Mead.

as a contributor and admirer of the Michigan state and its recreational areas, I urge you to vote "NO" on SB 1350. My family and myself use to stay in East Lansing teaching at the Michigan State University. Our students, friends and local community were always so interested in wild life, and so kind to all its species. When I accepted a position at NASA, we always were and are back to Michigan to spend our vacation. We condier ourselves a strong supporters of outdoor recreation in Michigan and are still consumers of Michigan products like Kelloggs, GM, Chrysler, Whirlpool and Amana appliances. That was the action and the movement to support the Michigan State. We were planning on visiting Michigan with a group of colleagues this winter and the summer of 2013 as well. But as a wildlife supporters many states wide it is important for us to make sure that we don't support any wrongful actions against wildlife. Therefore it may affect many tourists willing to visit the state. Please vote "NO" on SB 1350.

Thank you very much for taking our request for consideration. Respectfully,

Ludmila Dmitriev-Odier International Space Activities Committee, Chair American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA)

Wk: international2012@aiaahouston.org

Hm: mila.odier@gmail.com

From:

jchp@syntheticbinary <jchp@syntheticbinary.com> Monday, December 03, 2012 11:00 AM

Sent:

To:

David Mead

Subject:

vote "NO" on SB 1350 !!

Please do nature a favor. vote "NO" on SB 1350 !!

From: Sent: Constance Franklin <cfjanuary@att.net> Monday, December 03, 2012 10:41 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Reg: SB 1350 - Please Vote NO!

I am urgently writing to implore you to vote no on SB 1350. I often visit my first cousin in East Lansing, and I am gravely concerned with conservation, healthy ecosystems, and the ethical regard toward other species. Michigan is a beautiful open state, one that is very capable of embracing wildlife, and practicing the goal of coexistence and non-lethal management, and I was shocked when I learned that Michigan too is on the bandwagon to hunt down wolves. My cousin, Mr. Towler, and everyone I know in Michigan, is opposed to these wolf hunts, and I as an American, am baffled as to why we brought back a species from the brink of extinction, to begin a dark bloody rampage of slaughtering them all over again. Wolves, like all predators are vital to healthy ecosystems, and now that their numbers have begun to stabilize, wise management would be directed toward educational coexistence and non-lethal deterrents. To proceed with the wolf hunts is ecologically destructive, unethical and undemocratic.

Please, I trust that you care about our opinions and urge you to vote NO on SB 1350. I cannot in good conscience travel back to Michigan if I believed Michigan had little regard for wildlife, the environment and the voice of the people. I love your state and genuinely hope you will do the right thing.

Thank you for your serious attention Constance Franklin Los Angeles, CA 90026

From:

Jen Douglas <jeninseattle@live.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 10:38 AM

To:

David Mead

Cc:

Rep. Frank Foster

Subject:

Please vote NO on SB1350

Sirs,

I am a resident of WA with strong connections to Michigan and ask you to vote NO on SB 1350. Please set an example to the rest of the country and spare the wolves and other wildlife from the horrors and agony of trapping. Surely we have

Yours sincerely,

Jennifer Douglas

From: Sent:

Laura Manz <a href="mailto:lauramanz@rocketmail.com">lauramanz@rocketmail.com</a>

To:

Monday, December 03, 2012 10:38 AM David Mead

Subject:

SB 1350

Today, I write to beg you to vote no on SB 1350. This bill has passed the house and is waiting for the house committee to pass it. Please do not allow this to happen. Wolves are an important part of the natural ecosystem in our country. Much effort has gone into reintroducing them to the areas where they once roamed free. They are struggling to survive and the proposed hunt would severely impact the chances of their sustained recovery. They wolves and the national forests are a national treasure. The majority of the public does not support the wolf hunts.

As a frequent visitor to the wilds of your beautiful state, I beg you to vote no on SB 1350. The wolves are part of the reason I visit your state on vacation. Do not allow them to be hunted to the brink of extinction again. Wolf supporters we need your 'action' today to save the wolves from an upcoming barbaric hunt in Michigan---the wolf hunting bill is in House Committee--- we are asking that you contact these two House Committee members and encourage them to vote "NO" on SB 1350!!

From:

JWSnowyPlains@aol.com

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 10:34 AM

To:

Rep. Frank Foster

Cc:

David Mead

Subject:

Testimony for 12/4 meeting of Natural Resources, Tourism, & Outdoor Rec. Cmte.

From: Jacqueline and James Winkowski, 270 Flodin Road, Gwinn, MI 49841 - 906-249-1011

TO: House Natural Resources, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Committee

RE: Written Testimony for 12/4 Committee Meeting

Dear Rep. Foster:

We are lifelong residents of the Upper Peninsula and strongly oppose SB 1350. Please vote NO.

Having encountered wolves on occasion in this region during the past 20 years while hiking and dog sledding, we speak from personal experience. Neither of us has ever felt threatened by wolves. Wolves have never threatened our dogs. It has been a delight to see a wolf, and we know more U.P. residents who think this way than not.

The wolf pack in/near the City of Ironwood, that Senator Casperson has discussed in statewide news as if the wolves still exist, was killed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in March-April 2012 (see Outdoor News story at the end of this letter). The eight wolves, who threatened no one, were preying on deer which were being fed by City residents. The U.P.'s population of wolves is sparse; many outdoor enthusiasts never or seldom see one. The population of whitetail deer is very high, with cardeer collisions too frequent—and this year's deer harvest by hunters has been reported as being very successful; this in light of a population of 700 wolves.

There is no scientific need for a wolf hunt in Michigan. They are already being managed sufficiently under our State's plan: law in effect since January 2012 allows livestock and dog owners to kill a wolf in the act of attacking their animal(s). Farmers are issued landowner permits, and a farmer can have an "agent" of his choice shoot problem wolves. It has always been legal to kill a wolf threatening human life. To legalize the random killing of wolves would be disruptive to the social order of packs and likely result in more problem wolves.

Many people (U.P. residents included) are excited to see wolf tracks and sign and, if fortunate enough, with a rare glimpse of a wolf. It's animal that generally avoids people and is not aggressive toward humans.

Stories and photos of slaughtered wolves from the current MN and WI wolf hunts, as well as those in the Western States, are being celebrated by some, but to most people, they are shocking, tragic and disgusting. Please allow Michigan to remain a place where wolves can be enjoyed by wildlife watchers from Michigan and throughout the United States who, absent a wolf hunt, will choose to spend their vacations and tourism dollars here more than ever.

Please do not be unduly influenced by misinformation and special interest groups, and do what is right.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline and James Winkowski, 270 Flodin Road, Gwinn, MI 49841 - 906-249-1011

c: D. Mead

Story from Michigan Outdoor News:

outdoornews.com

# Eight wolves killed in city of Ironwood

By Marty Kovarik Contributing Writer Posted on April 26, 2012

Marquette, Mich. — Working as an agent for the state of Michigan, U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services personnel killed eight gray wolves in Ironwood between March 5 and April 5. The wolves belonged to two packs that had become habituated to people, and were being seen inside city limits at an increasing rate. The DNR deemed them a threat to human safety.

"This has been an ongoing issue over the past few years, and wolves were coming into residential areas," Brian Roell, the DNR's wolf specialist, told Michigan Outdoor News.

According to Roell, the department began receiving complaints in early January that people were seeing wolves inside the city limits. One report stated that a wolf was seen in a resident's driveway.

"Deer were coming in to feed on bushes and at bird feeders, and the wolves were following their prey into town and also feeding on garbage," Roell said. "In early March, the complaints picked up." Ironwood Daily Globe outdoor writer Ralph Ansami said the problem was particularly bad in some areas such as Sunset Road, where one resident would see wolves while walking his dog and others would see them within feet of their doors.

According to Sunset Road resident Clara May Lynn, her husband Robert turned on the back porch light one evening and saw two wolves approximately 10 yards from their door. The wolves ran away when the light was turned on. The next morning he investigated and found the carcass of a deer the wolves had killed. Before he had a chance to move the deer carcass, wolves came back and devoured it.

"They came back into the yard the next day," Lynn told Michigan Outdoor News. "It was pretty scary." Ironwood City Manager Scott Erickson said he's been hearing about wolves in local urbanized areas more frequently than in the past, and he discussed the issue with USDA Wildlife Services personnel.

"We plan on working with legislators to make sure that the funding to manage these wolves in our area continues," Erickson said. "We are concerned that they are getting too populated, and these problem animals need to be dealt with."

In previous years, the DNR tried to haze the wolves with non-lethal methods such as cracker shells and rubber bullets. Some wolves were caught and collared and then tracked back to the packs where further hazing was done. These tactics were only short-term solutions, and the wolves kept coming back into town. The problems increased toward the end of each winter.

Although no people were threatened and no dogs were killed, the DNR determined the wolves were becoming increasingly habituated to town and decided to take action for safety reasons.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service took the gray wolf off the endangered species list in the Great Lakes region in January. This gave the state more authority to manage problem animals. It also allowed the DNR to issue permits to farmers to dispatch wolves on their property, and made it legal for a person to kill a wolf in the act of attacking livestock or pets.

According to Roell, permits have been issued to two farmers so far this year. On a farm in Ontonagon County, a farmer or his agent killed a wolf April 16, which was not in the act of preying on livestock. This was the first wolf killed under the new permit system. At the same farm, another wolf was killed April 17 while it was attacking cattle.

If a wolf is killed under a permit, the farmer cannot move the carcass without taking photographs of it and the surrounding area and must contact the DNR as soon as practical, but no later than 12 hours after the wolf was killed. If a wolf is shot while attacking a dog, the carcass cannot be moved at all.

To report a wolf that is shot, call the DNR's RAP Hotline at (800) 292-7800.

"The best thing to do if someone kills a wolf in the act of preying on livestock or a dog is to leave the carcass where it is until DNR personnel arrives," Roell said.

Wolf carcasses are sent to the Rose Lake Laboratory where officials check for diseases and foot damage, the skull is measured, and the animal is aged. If the pelt is salvageable, it is either tanned or mounted for educational institutions such as schools, universities, or nature centers, according to Roell.

To date, 69 wolves have been killed either by the DNR or USDA since wolves returned to Michigan. Fifty were causing livestock damage and 19 were deemed human safety threats.

From:

Karen Schoen <karengail9@yahoo.com>

Sent: To:

Monday, December 03, 2012 10:32 AM

Subject:

David Mead wolf hunt

Mr. Mead:

Please vote NO on SB1350 to stop the wolf hunt. I cannot imagine why people still want to kill wolves. We brought them back from near extinction just to kill them off again. It seems people would get smarter about this by now.

I had planned a vacation to Michigan but will certainly cancel and spend my money somewhere else if this bill is passed.

Thank you for your time. Karen Schoen <u>karengail9@yahoo.com</u>

From:

Donna Martin <donnamartin.nc@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 10:27 AM

To:

David Mead

Dear Sir,

I am asking that you vote "NO" on SB 1350!! I am a great supporter of outdoor recreation in Michigan, and have been a long time consumer of Michigan's products like Kelloggs, GM, Chrysler, Whirlpool and Amana appliances. I hope to continue my support of your Michigan based companies and products, but I can not support them if you pass said bill.

Sincerely,
Donna Martin
DonnaMartin.nc@gmail.com

From:

myrna morris <morrismyrna@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 10:18 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Wolves in Michigan

Hello,

If you have any power to stop wolf trapping and hunting please do it!

Wolves have a bad rep, but don't bother anyone. Farmers must protect their own livestock! Even so wolves are an important part of the balance of nature. Please leave them alone!!!

Bye from Ana

From:

myrna morris <morrismyrna@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 10:18 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Wolves in Michigan

Hello,

If you have any power to stop wolf trapping and hunting please do it!

Wolves have a bad rep, but don't bother anyone. Farmers must protect their own livestock! Even so wolves are an important part of the balance of nature. Please leave them alone!!!

Bye from Ana

From:

Nicola Deangelis <ndeangelis@embarqmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 10:17 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Stop the slaughter of wolves

#### Mr Mead

I don't understand why we would re-introduce wolves, have them be magnificently successful, then allow them to be killed because of? What is the excuse this time, as far as I know they are not a great food source! What, did they outsmart you all! On top of that you have decided they should be trapped and either killed in absolute agony or get ripped apart alive by dogs. Can you please explain to me how any of this is helping the species, them or ours?

Love & Light

Nikki DeAngelis

From: Sent:

Michael Baca <jesterdev@gmail.com>

To:

Monday, December 03, 2012 10:16 AM David Mead; Rep. Frank Foster

Subject:

Wolf Hunt

I urge you to vote NO on the wolf hunt. My wife, Kids and I where planning a trip to Michigan early next year, but if this is the way Michigan treats their wildlife we will make plans for someplace else. These are living, breathing creatures who deserve respect and to live in peace.

#### Michael Baca

You have been telling the people, That this is the eleventh hour. Now, you must go and tell the people, That THIS is the hour, And there are things to be considered. --- Thomas Banyacya Sr. (1910-1999);

From:

Shelley Ruth Wyndham <shelley@spiritworldmedicine.co.za>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 10:10 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

vote "NO" on SB 1350 !!

USA is fast becoming one of the most apalling countries in the world with many states go along with the barbaric Wolf hunt. please vote NO on SB 1350. The Wolf hunt on every level is WRONG. please do the right thing, and VOTE NO.

Thank you

Dr. Shelley Ruth Wyndham

shelly@spiritworldmedicine.com

From: Sent:

brenda raus <br/>
brendarraus@gmail.com> Monday, December 03, 2012 10:08 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Trapping of wolves

Please do not support the trapping and killing of these animals, we just got them OFF of the endangered list. It seems like "man" has to kill everything off before relizing whay damage "he" has done. Please, Please. Please

Thank you for your time,

Brenda Raus.

Michigan

From:

classylady1@comcast.net

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 10:08 AM

To:

David Mead; Rep. Frank Foster

Subject:

The fate of Michigan's wolves is on the chopping block --- please help to save them

from pain and suffering

ACTION NEEDED NOW FOR MICHIGAN'S WOLVES !!!! We are begging you to vote NO!!

WE ASK YOU TO TAKE URGENT ACTION ALERT FOR MERCY TOWARD MICHIGAN'S WOLVES!!!!

We need your 'action' today to save the wolves from an upcoming barbaric hunt in Michigan---the wolf hunting bill is in House Committee--- we are asking that you and begging you to have MERCY and vote NO on SB 1350 !!

Our plans to visit Michigan (tourist dollars) and our support of outdoor recreation in Michigan, cannot continue if you vote to kill these magnificent creatures and subject them to trapping torture! PLEASE ACT TODAY FOR THE

DIANE M. KASTEL AND FAMILY WHEATON, IL

From:

Sent:

To:

Subject:

Linda Higgins <lindahiggins319@gmail.com> Monday, December 03, 2012 10:07 AM

David Mead

Please vote no on SB1350.

Linda Higgins Tiburon, California

From:

TaintedxxBright < dismantlexme@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 10:04 AM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

"NO" on SB 1350

Good Morning Mr Mead.

I am writing you to ask you to say NO on SB 1350. I think wolves are beautiful, intelligent creatures who deserve their lives in the wilderness. Being from Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, I frequently cross the Sault Saint Marie border to visit your beautiful state. But if this bill passes in your state to hunt down and kill these creatures...! will reconsider visiting. Thank you for your time. Sarah Martel

From:

helenavr@axesgroup.gr

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 10:00 AM

To:

David Mead about TRAPS

Dear Sir,

Subject:

I am sure that you agree that traps is a barbaric method and not acceptable by civilized people. I don't know how a human been can be so heartless as to set up traps for animals. I don't know how can someone act in this way in cold blood. But, assuming you are an educated person, I really beg you to vote NO to TRAPS.

Thank you for your time,

Helena Vrettou

Mech.Engineer,

Athens 11636

Greece

From:

Elizabeth Howard < liztwins 50@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 9:59 AM

To:

David Mead

Please vote "NO" on SB 1350.

# Elizabeth K. Howard

"I am in favor of animal rights as well as human rights. That is the way of a whole human being." -- Abraham Lincoln

From:

Sent:

riccardo savi <rickysavi@yahoo.com> Monday, December 03, 2012 9:54 AM

To:

Subject:

David Mead Michigan wolves

Dear David, Please vote no on SB 1350 Sincerely, Riccardo Savi

Riccardo Savi www.riccardosavi.com

Tel: 310.614.4507
Facebook: Riccardo Savi
Twitter: @RiccardoSavi

Documenting stories and events...

House Committee on Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation

**Testimony** 

December 3, 2012



National Wolfwatcher Coalition
<a href="http://wolfwatcher.org">http://wolfwatcher.org</a>
Headquarters: 401 884-2808
Great Lakes Regional 906 988 2892

Dear Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

The National Wolfwatcher Coalition is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting positive attitudes about wolves through education. The National Wolfwatcher Coalition opposes SB 1350.

SB 1350 states that the use of hunting as a management tool is necessary, "to minimize human and gray wolf encounters and to prevent gray wolves from threatening or harming humans, livestock and pets." This statement is not based on reality and it appears its purpose is to instill fear and concern among Michigan residents.

Senator Casperson, Representative Huuki and even some providing testimony before the Senate Committee would like you to believe that wolves are walking down Main Street and rampantly killing livestock and pets, while owners are forced to standby helplessly. We urge you to look at the facts.

Livestock producers are compensated for verified losses caused by wolves and since delisting are issued landowner permits to kill problem wolves. Livestock producers and dog owners can also kill wolves, without a permit, that are in the act of attacking their livestock or dog.

Through a federal grant, 20 donkeys have been placed on farms and fencing has been purchased for seven farms. These and other non-lethal measures have proven to be effective in reducing wolf depredation.

Killing livestock is a learned behavior and most wolf packs do not cause depredation problems. Only 7% of the 900 working U.P. farms have experienced a verified wolf depredation. In 2010 (53%), 2011 (43%) and 2012 (41%) of all the wolf depredations in the U.P. were on one farm, located in Ontonagon County. This producer has also had depredation problems with bears,

coyotes and bobcats. Simply hunting wolves in the U.P. will not resolve this producer's predation problems.

The best way to manage problem wolves when non-lethal measures fail is to insure producers follow best management practices and to target the wolves responsible for the depredation in a timely manner. Research shows that randomly killing wolves not responsible for depredation can actually cause depredation to increase.

Over the past 17 years, there have been 68 dogs killed by wolves. Nearly all were hounds pursuing game on public lands.

Since federal delisting ten months ago, at least 25 wolves have been legally killed under DNR's current authority, including eight wolves, killed this spring in Ironwood. The wolves were attracted to a residential area by persons feeding deer and the wolves were killed as a proactive measure; no one was threatened by the wolves.

There are some who argue that a recreational wolf hunting/trapping season will increase social acceptance for the wolf. Just look at the states where the hunting and trapping of wolves is allowed and you will see the hatred for the wolf is just is strong as ever where slogans such as "Smoke a pack a day" and "Kill em all" abound. In Michigan alone, at least 62 wolves have been illegally killed since 1999.

No doubt you have heard from some constituents frustrated with wolves. Some have real concerns such as loss of livestock, others fear for what might happen; others are misinformed on the impact of wolves on deer; while others are unaware of the ecological benefits of wolves. Attitude surveys show the majority of U.P. residents support wolf recovery.

Facts show that while wolves alter deer behavior; wolves are not decimating deer populations in the Upper Peninsula. Research indicates the wolves can control diseases within deer populations such as Chronic Wasting Disease. Wolves also control beaver numbers; beaver cause millions in dollars in damage to Michigan culverts and roads.

Senator Casperson and Representative Huuki have attempted to justify the need for designating the wolf as a game animal stating that wolf numbers have far exceeded population goals. He is mistaken. The approved wolf management plan does not identify a target population size, nor does it establish an upper limit for the number of wolves in the State.

The fact that Wisconsin and Minnesota have established a wolf hunting/trapping season is not a scientific reason for Michigan to institute one.

We also question why SB 1350 assesses a penalty of only \$200-\$1000 for illegally killing a wolf and believe the penalties should be elevated to that for illegally taking an elk or moose.

SB 1350 includes a clause creating an advisory council; however, the MI Wolf Forum already exists with representation from each of the organizations mentioned in the legislation.

Although given the facts many times, Senator Casperson and Representative Huuki have chosen to ignore the data and instead propagate misleading information in an attempt to satisfy a small constituency. Senator Casperson even told a gentleman who provided unscientific and antidotal information during the Senate hearing that he (Senator Casperson) considered this person to be an expert. A very notable difference between the House Version (HB 5834) and the Senate Version (SB 1350) can be found on Page 4, Line 7 where it states, "The sound management..." The word "scientific" was deleted from the House version.

With all the non-lethal and lethal measures available to target and control problem wolves, there is no scientific evidence to support the need for a recreational wolf hunting season or for designating the wolf a game animal. We ask that you consider the input of our 3250 supporters who have sent emails to you and urge you to reject SB 1350.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Warren

Nancy Warren Great Lakes Regional Director National Wolfwatcher Coalition PO Box 102 Ewen, MI 49925 nancy@wolfwatcher.org House Committee on Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation

**Testimony** 

December 3, 2012



National Wolfwatcher Coalition
<a href="http://wolfwatcher.org">http://wolfwatcher.org</a>
Headquarters: 401 884-2808
Great Lakes Regional 906 988 2892

Dear Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

The National Wolfwatcher Coalition is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting positive attitudes about wolves through education. The National Wolfwatcher Coalition opposes SB 1350.

SB 1350 states that the use of hunting as a management tool is necessary, "to minimize human and gray wolf encounters and to prevent gray wolves from threatening or harming humans, livestock and pets." This statement is not based on reality and it appears its purpose is to instill fear and concern among Michigan residents.

Senator Casperson, Representative Huuki and even some providing testimony before the Senate Committee would like you to believe that wolves are walking down Main Street and rampantly killing livestock and pets, while owners are forced to standby helplessly. We urge you to look at the facts.

Livestock producers are compensated for verified losses caused by wolves and since delisting are issued landowner permits to kill problem wolves. Livestock producers and dog owners can also kill wolves, without a permit, that are in the act of attacking their livestock or dog.

Through a federal grant, 20 donkeys have been placed on farms and fencing has been purchased for seven farms. These and other non-lethal measures have proven to be effective in reducing wolf depredation.

Killing livestock is a learned behavior and most wolf packs do not cause depredation problems. Only 7% of the 900 working U.P. farms have experienced a verified wolf depredation. In 2010 (53%), 2011 (43%) and 2012 (41%) of all the wolf depredations in the U.P. were on one farm, located in Ontonagon County. This producer has also had depredation problems with bears,

coyotes and bobcats. Simply hunting wolves in the U.P. will not resolve this producer's predation problems.

The best way to manage problem wolves when non-lethal measures fail is to insure producers follow best management practices and to target the wolves responsible for the depredation in a timely manner. Research shows that randomly killing wolves not responsible for depredation can actually cause depredation to increase.

Over the past 17 years, there have been 68 dogs killed by wolves. Nearly all were hounds pursuing game on public lands.

Since federal delisting ten months ago, at least 25 wolves have been legally killed under DNR's current authority, including eight wolves, killed this spring in Ironwood. The wolves were attracted to a residential area by persons feeding deer and the wolves were killed as a proactive measure; no one was threatened by the wolves.

There are some who argue that a recreational wolf hunting/trapping season will increase social acceptance for the wolf. Just look at the states where the hunting and trapping of wolves is allowed and you will see the hatred for the wolf is just is strong as ever where slogans such as "Smoke a pack a day" and "Kill em all" abound. In Michigan alone, at least 62 wolves have been illegally killed since 1999.

No doubt you have heard from some constituents frustrated with wolves. Some have real concerns such as loss of livestock, others fear for what might happen; others are misinformed on the impact of wolves on deer; while others are unaware of the ecological benefits of wolves. Attitude surveys show the majority of U.P. residents support wolf recovery.

Facts show that while wolves alter deer behavior; wolves are not decimating deer populations in the Upper Peninsula. Research indicates the wolves can control diseases within deer populations such as Chronic Wasting Disease. Wolves also control beaver numbers; beaver cause millions in dollars in damage to Michigan culverts and roads.

Senator Casperson and Representative Huuki have attempted to justify the need for designating the wolf as a game animal stating that wolf numbers have far exceeded population goals. He is mistaken. The approved wolf management plan does not identify a target population size, nor does it establish an upper limit for the number of wolves in the State.

The fact that Wisconsin and Minnesota have established a wolf hunting/trapping season is not a scientific reason for Michigan to institute one.

We also question why SB 1350 assesses a penalty of only \$200-\$1000 for illegally killing a wolf and believe the penalties should be elevated to that for illegally taking an elk or moose.

SB 1350 includes a clause creating an advisory council; however, the MI Wolf Forum already exists with representation from each of the organizations mentioned in the legislation.

Although given the facts many times, Senator Casperson and Representative Huuki have chosen to ignore the data and instead propagate misleading information in an attempt to satisfy a small constituency. Senator Casperson even told a gentleman who provided unscientific and antidotal information during the Senate hearing that he (Senator Casperson) considered this person to be an expert. A very notable difference between the House Version (HB 5834) and the Senate Version (SB 1350) can be found on Page 4, Line 7 where it states, "The sound management..." The word "scientific" was deleted from the House version.

With all the non-lethal and lethal measures available to target and control problem wolves, there is no scientific evidence to support the need for a recreational wolf hunting season or for designating the wolf a game animal. We ask that you consider the input of our 3250 supporters who have sent emails to you and urge you to reject SB 1350.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Warren

Nancy Warren
Great Lakes Regional Director
National Wolfwatcher Coalition
PO Box 102
Ewen, MI 49925
nancy@wolfwatcher.org

From:

RCBUM@aol.com

Sent:

Sunday, December 02, 2012 11:34 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

HB5834

Wolves as a game species in Michigan? Seriously? That's dangerous to the resident wolf population.

With the Isle Royale wolves currently on the decline and the populations in the rest of the state still far below what the environment can (and should) be sustaining, how can the committee even consider it advisable to allow hunters to kill these animals simply for trophies?

I am astonished to find that any of Michigan's legislators would even be considering such a change in the law.

Rayanne Chamberlain

From:

Marti Bautel <a href="mailto:hartermi.net">happyhowls@chartermi.net</a>>

Sent:

Sunday, December 02, 2012 10:48 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Testimony on SB 1350

<u>Please Note</u>: I have sent two rather similar emails for testimony on this bill. The second one, which is also listed below, was the correct version.

From: Marti Bautel [mailto:happyhowls@chartermi.net]

Sent: Sunday, December 02, 2012 10:26 PM

**To:** 'dmead@house.mi.gov' **Subject:** Testimony on SB 1350

# Please share my testimony on SB 1350 with committee members

This legislation is being pushed through without Scientific data indicating a <u>need</u> for a wolf hunt. A desire for a wolf hunt is not acceptable. This is being driven by fear and misinformation. Please oppose this legislation and insist on scientific evidence or peer reviewed research. Unless legislation is based on scientific data recommending the need for designating the wolf as a game animal, it should be opposed. This bill does not meet this requirement.

Additional Reasons for Opposing SB 1350:

- 1. With only 700 wolves in the UP the population is still fragile.
- 2. No wolf has threatened or harmed anyone in Michigan. The MI DNR has the authority to remove wolves that have become habituated to people, further minimizing any potential risk to humans.
- 3. There is no evidence that wolves are decimating deer populations. By eliminating the sick, injured, and weak, they strengthen the deer herd. Research indicates wolves may eliminate diseases such as Chronic Wasting Disease.
- 4. The MI DNR already has authority to remove wolves responsible for depredation as well as issue landowner permits.
- 5. Both livestock producers and dog owners have the authority to kill a wolf in the act of attacking their livestock or dog.
- 6. Livestock producers are compensated for their losses and there is funding available for non-lethal measures to minimize depredations.

Martha Ruszkowski 5333 Williamsburg Rd Williamsburg, MI 49690 231-267-5418 happyhowls@chartermi.net

From:

Marti Bautel <a href="mailto:hartermi.net">happyhowls@chartermi.net</a>>

Sent:

Sunday, December 02, 2012 10:26 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Testimony on SB 1350

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- 1. With only 700 wolves in the UP the population is still fragile.
- 2. No wolf has threatened or harmed anyone in Michigan. The MI DNR has the authority to remove wolves that have become habituated to people, further minimizing any potential risk to humans.
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- 5. Both livestock producers and dog owners have the authority to kill a wolf in the act of attacking their livestock or dog.
- 6. Livestock producers are compensated for their losses and there is funding available for non-lethal measures to minimize depredations.

Martha Ruszkowski 5333 Williamsburg Rd Williamsburg, MI 49690 231-267-5418 happyhowls@chartermi.net

From:

Joellen Gilchrist < joellengilchrist@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Sunday, December 02, 2012 10:12 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

michigan grey wolf bill

Dear Mr. Mead,

Adding the Michigan grey wolf (when their population number is still so low) to the list of our state's hunted animals makes no sense. The speed that this bill is going through the legislature indicates its advocates do not want much information to be available before the vote is taken. This is not what citizens expect from their representatives. Please postpone this vote until more information is available to all, both the elected, and the voters. My father and brother, and brother-in-law, all hunters, agree.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Joellen Gilchrist Riverside Dr. Beverly Hills, Mich.

From: Sent:

Marti Bautel <a href="mailto:happyhowls@chartermi.net">happyhowls@chartermi.net</a> Sunday, December 02, 2012 10:09 PM

To:

David Mead

Cc:

frankfoster@hosue.mi.gov

Subject:

Testimony on SB 1350

# Please share my testimony with committee members

This legislation is being pushed through without Scientific data indicating a <u>need</u> for a wolf hunt. A desire for a wolf hunt is not acceptable. This is being driven by fear and misinformation. Please oppose this legislation and insist on scientific evidence or peer reviewed research. Unless legislation is based on scientific data recommending the need for designating the wolf as a game animal, it should be opposed. These bills do not meet this requirement.

Additional Reasons for Opposing SB 2350 and HB 5834:

- 1. With only 700 wolves in the UP the population is still fragile.
- No wolf has threatened or harmed anyone in Michigan. The MI DNR has the authority to remove wolves that have become habituated to people, further minimizing any potential risk to humans.
- 3. There is no evidence that wolves are decimating deer populations. By eliminating the sick, injured, and weak, they strengthen the deer herd. Research indicates wolves may eliminate diseases such as Chronic Wasting Disease.
- 4. The MI DNR already has authority to remove wolves responsible for depredation as well as issue landowner permits.
- Both livestock producers and dog owners have the authority to kill a wolf in the act of attacking their livestock or dog.
- 6. Livestock producers are compensated for their losses and there is funding available for non-lethal measures to minimize depredations.

Martha Ruszkowski 5333 Williamsburg Rd Williamsburg, MI 49690 231-267-5418 happyhowls@chartermi.net

From: Sent:

alohacurrent <mayan@winfirst.com> Sunday, December 02, 2012 9:38 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

SB1350

Hello Mr. Clerk,

I am wiriting to express my objection to senate bill 1350 currently being considered by state legislatures designating wolves a game species. It is my sincere hope committee members can find another path forward then an open season killing of these animals. I learned of the senate bill from my wife who grew up in Lansing (Okemos). We have a emotional attachment to the state, its people and its wildlands. There is nothing else quite like it. We believe the wolves are an integral part of the ecology, state wildlife and naturally belong there. It would be a shame indeed to waste the lives of these animals. Furthermore there doesn't appear to be a significant population of them in the first place, or represent any significant threat to humans, or populations of other animals. Therefore designating them game species seems particulary destructive and senseless.

Warm Regards,

Brad & Melanie Juarros Sacramento, California

From:

mrmcats@cs.com

Sent:

Sunday, December 02, 2012 9:20 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Adding Gray Wolves to list of game animals

Dear Mr. Mead,

I have been apprised that the House Natural Resources, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Committee will discuss wolf management on Tuesday, December 4. I would like to express my views on this consideration.

I am extremely opposed to adding the gray wolf to the list of game animals in our state. The gray wolf was almost driven to extinction in Michigan and consequently was placed on the endangered species list for the last forty years. In 2006 the state's DNR convened a wide array of experts to discuss, via a round table, a viable wolf management program. It is important to note that the group's final report stated a quota hunt was not a scientifically sound method of wolf management. So, I have to ask why our legislators are pursuing this as an option.

A 2010 poll of Michigander's, including hunters, showed that the majority did not want wolves to be hunted and supported a "hands-off" approach. Those surveyed stated they would like to see credible science utilized in making decisions about wolves living in our state. Michigander's highly value wolves.

House Bill 5834 would negatively effect the long-term survival of a most valued, but unfortunately maligned animal. I cannot understand the rush to pass bills which would allow hunting of wolves-certainly our hunters have more than enough wildlife to satisfy their needs. But what about the numerous citizens who enjoy the beauty and value of wolves? I believe our input should be equally valued.

I ask that you please share my letter with the committee. Ask if the wolf population is truly a "problem" and, if so, what non-lethal methods can be used? Currently farmers and dog owners are compensated and killing wolves won't eliminate the conflict.

As a tax-payer I ask that the committee not pursue adding gray wolves to the list of game animals. I strongly oppose the hunting of these animals.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Mouradjian RN, MSN Clarkston, Michigan 48348

From:

Denise Donovan <br/> <br/>beaconx2@hotmail.com>

Sent:

Sunday, December 02, 2012 8:56 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Wolf Hunt Bill

## Mr Mead,

I am writing in opposition to the wolf hunt bill they are trying to rush through without the wolf studies from the round table.

Why is this that everyone is in such a hurry to hunt Michigan to extinction of it's wildlife? It's about time people put their heads together and came up with better ideas than to make Michigan known as the "Kill State".

Sincerely, Denise Donovan Ronald Cummins

Be a girl with a mind, a woman with attitude, and a lady with class.



From:

Donald Rankinen <mlrankinen@sbcglobal.net>

Sent:

Sunday, December 02, 2012 8:33 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

wolf hunt

Please use this as testimony at any forum concerning the planned wolf hunt in Michigan.

I am definitely against any hunt of these animals - after introducing them to the State the DNR needs to find a way of controlling them - it seems a bigger problem is being made of it then it actually is - I believe there are alot more coyotes than wolves and people are mistaking them as wolves.

Sincerely,
Marcella L. Rankinen
mlrankinen@sbcglobal.net

From:

Michelle Roberts < m.michelle.roberts@comcast.net>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 3:58 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Please vote NO on SB1350 for our wolves!

Dear Sir,

I write to you today as a concerned citizen of the U.S. on behalf of our wolves. Please do not allow ANY wolf hunts in Michigan! It is wrong and there is no scientific evidence to support it; actually it says the opposite. Wolves are Apex Predators and are a very much needed part of our environment and ecosystem to keep it in balance. They are no real threat to livestock or humans. Please protect our wolves; the inhumane way they are being treated in other western and northern states is horrible and needs to stop.

They need to be returned to The Endangered Species List at once. I hope you don't want to be remembered as destroying this magnificent icon of America!

Thank you!
Michelle Roberts

From:

Alexis Antonelli Morris <alexis\_antonelli@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 3:51 PM

To:

David Mead

**Subject:** 

I oppose 1350. Wolves need to be protected!

Mr. David Mead,

My name is Alexis Morris and I am a resident of Michigan living in Chelsea, part of Washtenaw county. It saddened me to hear that this bill passed the full senate. Before you meet about this in the House Natural Resources, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Committee tomorrow I ask that the committee please consider this letter and act according to the wishes of the Michigan residents, including me.

Wolves have a very sad history in this country. They have faced purposeful extermination and were all but gone from the U.S. by the 1930's except in parts of Alaska and Minnesota. We now know that wolves are not dangerous and they play an important role in our ecosystem including controlling coyote populations and eating dead animals left by hunters or others, not to mention them being beautiful animals, so we re-introduced them in the 1990's. There are still only about 5,00 wolves in the entire country. Michigan JUST removed wolves from the endangered species list this year and it makes no sense to me why we would want to reverse all of that progress and allow people to start killing them off again. Can't we at least wait 5 years to see how it goes? It is already legal for people to kill wolves to protect their livestock and pets so why is it necessary to add them to a list of animals that can be hunted? Unlike Hollywood movies where wolves are depicted as man-eaters, they are not dangerous and they avoid humans. Folks aren't going to eat the wolves, so what do they need to kill them for?

I ask that we try to evolve a little bit here and find more creative ways of appreciating this wonderful animal then shooting it. I would be very disappointed in Michigan legislators if this passed.

Sincerely, Alexis Antonelli Morris 11425 Boyce Road Jackson, MI 48118 617-529-0558

From:

jjohnsen@earthlink.net

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 3:28 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

SB 1350

I hope you vote against trapping and hunting of wolves. Thank you fornyour attention. Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE DROID

From:

Melba C < Coleman. M@comcast.net >

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 3:34 PM

To:

Rep. Tim Bledsoe (District 1); Rep. Harold Haugh (District 42); Rep. Dian Slavens (District 21); David Mead; Rep. Maureen Stapleton; Rep. Joel Johnson; Rep. Wayne Schmidt

(District 104); Rep. Kurt Damrow; Rep. Frank Foster; Rep. Holly Hughes; Rep. Matt Huuki;

Rep. Peter Pettalia

Subject:

Senate Bill 1350

Date:

Dec 3, 2012

Dear members of the House Natural Resources, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Committee,

My name is Melba J Coleman; I believe decisions regarding the wolf must be based on the most current scientific data. I do not live in the U.P. For the record, however, while I currently live in Hazel Park, I previously lived in Norway, in Dickinson County. There, I was able to enjoy wildlife, including wolves. To hear a wolf howl, to stumble upon a track, enlightened me to know the wolf is flourishing. Friends would visit in hopes to catch a glimpse of these apex animals I spoke of. Though I moved down state, I travel to the Upper Peninsula 2-3 times a year for this reason, as so do many others. But the fact is, wolves belong to all of the people of Michigan—and indeed to all the citizens of the U.S., because they use our National Forests.

The approved wolf management plan does not establish an upper limit for the number of wolves in the state. The criteria for state delisting were 200 wolves for five consecutive years, but 200 wolves was not a target population size. Michigan law allows farmers and dog owners to take lethal actions when non-lethal measures are ineffective. Farmers are compensated for verified losses caused by wolves, and a grant is available to provide non-lethal deterrence measures to reduce depredations. Those measures were put in place to protect Michigan farmers and businesses from wolf depredation.

There is not one case of any wolf in the state that has threatened or harmed any human. Further, the DNR has the authority to remove wolves that have become habituated. If federal tax dollars support the state, it seems to me more voices should be considered. Visitors spend thousands of dollars to hike our trails, canoe our rivers, ride ATVs and snowmobile and surveys show they value the wolf. When Northern Lower Peninsula & Upper Peninsula residents were asked, 73% somewhat approve or strongly approve of having wolves in Michigan.

Wolves help sustain nature's balance for our ecosystem. With less than 700 wolves in the state there is no scientific need to have a recreational hunting trapping season.

The DNR acknowledges that the hunting of wolves is biologically complex and many factors must be considered, not just the opinions of those who want a trophy animal. The need for peer reviewed research and the need for scientific wolf management is imminent – we have a management plan that is supported by 20 different groups, including hunting groups.

The approved wolf management plan outlines approaches for managing many wolf-related issues. The approaches were chosen based on scientific evaluation of the potential impacts to the wolf population, their feasibility and their probability of success and because they appear to be acceptable to most Michigan residents.

With all the non-lethal and lethal measures available to control problem wolves, there is no scientific evidence to support the need for a recreational hunting season for wolves.

With the delisting of the wolf, the Michigan Wolf Management Plan can now be fully implemented including the issuance of landowner permits when non-lethal measures are ineffective.

I am not a biologist, nor do I have a degree in wildlife .What I do have is compassion and the sense to know it is not necessary for the wolf to be designated a game for the DNR to manage wolf conflicts. To educate people about these apex animals and to diminish any myth or negative feeling that people have about wolves is most important to me. All in all, I want to make a difference. Once a wolf is gone from this earth, there is no way of bringing it back. Extinction is forever.

Let's give the Wolf Management Plan time to work, there is no need to rush. There is no emergency. We need to evaluate the impacts lethal control will have on pack dynamics and population growth before designating the wolf a game animal. I urge committee members to reject Senate Bill 1350.

Respectfully,

Melba J. Coleman 1403 E Maxlow Ave. Hazel Park, MI 48030 248-953-7305

From:

ksimmonsathome@cs.com

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 3:07 PM

To: Subject: David Mead the wolves

Please stop this unconscious slaughter of your wolves.

When we resort to this level of mass violence against a species, we have learned nothing. There are other ways, and I implore you and your great state to use them. I will not buy anything made there, nor visit again, until this stopped.

Thank you.

Kat Simmous

From:

Donald Hughes <donrhughes@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 3:10 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Letter of Testimony requesting to Vote No on SB 1350 - bill that allows the hunting of

grey wolves in MI

Attachments:

MIWolves \_SB1350\_DonaldHughes.pdf

Dear Mr Mead,

I am attaching my letter of testimony for tomorrow's Natural Resources, Outdoor and Tourism Committee Meeting regarding the review of SB 1350 to allow hunting of grey wolves in Michigan. I would like it to be added to the official record and request the committee vote against moving this bill forward to the House.

Thank you

Donald Hughes 3744 Bald Mountain Rd Auburn Hills, MI 48326

From:

Don Coyote <doncoyote99@yahoo.com> Monday, December 03, 2012 3:11 PM

Sent: To:

David Mead; Rep. Frank Foster

Subject:

Re: SB 1350 / HB 5834

Dear sirs,

I wish to voice my opposition to SB 1350 and HB 5834, designating the wolf a game species and authorizing the first wolf hunting season in modern history. With only 700 wolves in the UP, the population is still fragile. The need to manage wolves is self-created and self-justifying, and is merely an excuse to kill wolves. There is no scientific evidence or peer reviewed research that indicates there is a need for a recreational wolf hunting season in Michigan.

No wolf has threatened or harmed anyone in Michigan. There is no evidence that wolves are decimating deer populations in Michigan. The MI DNR has the authority to remove wolves responsible for depredation, as well as issue landowner permits. Both livestock producers and dog owners have the authority to kill a wolf in the act of attacking their livestock or dog. There is funding available for non-lethal measures to minimize depredations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

George Heritier 14521 Oak Park, MI 48237

From:

Susan Karp <sdkarp@me.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 2:55 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

I oppose SB 1350 and I hope you will too

House Natural Resources, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Committee:

Please vote NO on SB 1350. There is NO scientific justification for a wolf hunt in our state. Wolves have just been taken off the endangered list, and it is not necessary to declare wolves as a game animal in Michigan. Please protect Michigan's wolves and VOTE NO for SB 1350.
Thank you.

Sincerely, Susan D. Karp, MSW 405 Highland Rd. Ann Arbor, MI 48104

From:

Terrihobart <terrihobart@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 2:59 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Woves

Please don't allow wolf hunting to be allowed. We just got the back to an equal number in our society. It's not fair to the wolf or animal lovers. If they eat a farm animal the government reinburses that farm for his lost of cattle. Try building them a nice park or give them certain piece of land for themselves. You're all to quick to judge. Keep america beautiful.

Sent from my U.S. Cellular® Android-powered phone

From:

Sunday Harvie <sundayharvie@msn.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 2:59 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Opposed to SB 1350

Dear Committee Members,

It has come to our attention that the MDNR&E is trying to establish a game season for Michigan wolves. We feel compelled to submit our public comments on

this subject. We're absolutely opposed to this ill conceived plan!! There is no science-based reason to hunt wolves, hunting won't reduce conflicts and the

majority of Michigan residents support a "hands off" approach to wolf management, so why the rush to hunt them?

The MDNR's pervasive killing mentally is evident in their 2011 plan to implement a hunting season for the still recovering moose population in the U. P. Currently a massive unjustified slaughter of mute swans, over 4,000 so far, with thousand's more slated for eradication, is

underway. In 2006 the MDNR went after the tiny

mourning dove because they provided great target practice for hunters (agencies own words).

The MDNRE's primary function is protection and stewardship of wildlife that belong to all Michigan residence, however, that mandate has long been missing from

this agency. Instead, all we see is the knee jerk mantra of kill, kill that has prevailed in the past and continues today!!

## Please oppose SB 1350

Sincerely,

Mr. & Robert Harvie 3035 S. Hickory Ridge Trail Milford, MI 48380 (248) 685-3604

From:

Italia Millan <italia.millan@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 2:37 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Milton J. Williams testimony on SB 1350 to be voted by committee on 12/04/2012

Attachments:

MIWolves\_SB1350\_MJWilliams.pdf

Dear Mr. David Mead,

Hi again. I'm attaching Mr. Milton J. Williams' testimony on SB 1350. He doesn't have an email account and asked me to send it to you. I understand that the House Natural Resources committee will be discussing and voting on SB 1350 (the establishment of a game season for wolves in Michigan) during tomorrow's (Tuesday, December 4th) meeting. Please include his letter in the official record.

Thank you!

Italia Millan

Members of the House Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation committee,

Polls show that most of the citizens of Michigan do not want to see wolves hunted. The myth of "the big bad wolf" is past. Laws are already in place to compensate farmers for their losses and to deal with dangerous animals. Wolves add allure and mystery to our state. Tourists, backpackers and campers come to the Upper Peninsula in hopes of spotting these exotic animals. Even if not seen, their howls at night bring memories that last a lifetime.

Law SB 1350 is a bad idea - Please vote it down.

Milton J Williams 2945 Hillendale Drive Rochester Hills, MI 48309

From:

Ann Wardowski <annward@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 2:00 PM

To:

David Mead

Cc:

jfritz@humanesociety.org

Subject:

Committee message re: SB 1350

Dear Mr. Mead

Please pass this message along to the members of the House Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee for their hearing on Tuesday, Dec. 4 regarding SB 1350 – adding the Gray wolf to the game list.

I am a Michigan resident and tax payer and am strongly opposed to adding the Michigan Gray wolf to the game list at this time. They were just taken off of the Endangered Species list this year and it is too soon to be hunting them. They are few in number and are not creating any harm, but are part of the ecosystem. If any do create a problem, they can be handled on an individual basis as stated in the Recommended Guiding Principles for Wolf Management in Michigan that was written in 2006 by a diverse group of stake holders.

The Wolf Management Group is meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 5 in St. Ignace. It is best for the Natural Resources Committee, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation to not vote on this bill SB 1350, but let the experts have their meeting to discuss the current status of the wolf.

The Senate has jumped the gun to pass this bill 1350 as they were not even aware that the Wolf Management Round table existed and the Senate ignorantly created a similar advisory board.

This year the Traverse City are was inundated with an increased skunk population. That will mean that there will be an increase to the coyote population. The wolves are the natural predators of the coyote. The wolves also assist in managing the deer population by culling the sick and weak. This aids in preventing diseases from being passed to our bovine herds. We need a fully diverse ecosystem to keep nature in balance.

Give the Michigan Gray wolf and the Round table some time. There is no problem with the few wolves that we have now that cannot be handled by sager heads.

Sincerely,

Ann and Dennis Wardowski 8977 Sunset W Traverse City, MI 49686-1539

From:

sheila biddlecombe <chameleon1212001@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 2:02 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Stop the barbaric wolf hunt in Michigan vote "NO" on SB 1350 !!

Dear Sir

I have visited your beautiful state many times but now I have learned of this I shall not be visiting again if this hunt goes ahead. I could not bear to be there thinking of all those slaughtered wolves. I therefore urge you to NO on SB 1350.

Thank you in anticipation of your compassion

Sheila Biddlecombe

From:

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 2:04 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Legislature re: Wolf killing in MI

Dear Mr. Mead,

Greetings,

I respectfully voice my disapproval for legislation to kill wolves in Michigan. Should this pass I shall boycott all products made in MI and not support MI by visiting the state of MI.

Thank you. Respectfully, Ann Craft

From:

Pam <baileyflint8@aol.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 2:18 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

SB 1350

Mr. David Mead:

Please vote 'NO'!!!! on SB 1350, regarding the wolves slaughter. I have lived in MI all my life and this would be such a travesty for us! Please vote NO!!!!

Thank you for your help in this matter!!

Pam Bailey

From:

Cheryl Farner < rodogrun@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 2:23 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Fwd: gray wolf email

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Cheryl Farner < rodogrun@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Dec 3, 2012 at 2:06 PM

Subject: gray wolf email

To: Jill Fritz < jfritz@humanesociety.org>

To House Natural Resources, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Committees:

As a Michigan resident I am urging you not to endorse a hunt of our gray wolves. Other options have been and do work in managing numbers.

We are lucky these native citizens made a come back here! They still need to be protected! Where there is a problem, it should be addressed on a case to case basis.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Farner

<sup>&</sup>quot;He's as square as a wombat turd."...Joe Rowland

David Mead	
From: Sent: To: Subject:	Cheryl Farner <rodogrun@gmail.com> Monday, December 03, 2012 2:23 PM David Mead Re: gray wolf email</rodogrun@gmail.com>
done.	
On Mon, Dec 3, 2012 at 2:	23 PM, Cheryl Farner < rodogrun@gmail.com > wrote:
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Re: gray wolf email

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"He's as square as a wombar turd "....loe Rowland

"He's as square as a wombat turd."...Joe Rowland

From:

Italia Millan <italia.millan@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 2:24 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Please vote NO on SB 1350 and protect Michigan's gray wolves

Attachments:

MIWolves \_SB1350\_IMillan.pdf

Dear Mr. David Mead,

I understand that the House Natural Resources committee will be discussing and voting on SB 1350 (the establishment of a game season for wolves in Michigan) during tomorrow's (Tuesday, December 4th) meeting. Please include the letter attached in the official record as my testimony.

Thank you for your help!

Sincerely,

Italia Millan 3744 Bald Mountain Rd Auburn Hills, MI 48326

From:

Ricki Newman < rickinewman@yahoo.com>

Monday, December 03, 2012 1:46 PM

Sent: To: Subject:

David Mead; Rep. Frank Foster PLEASE VOTE NO ON SB 1350!!

Although I am a non-resident of the great state of Michigan--I have visited and have friends in Michigan. I would like to continue to tour in your state and continue to support your major consumer products, such as Kellogg's, Whirlpool/Amana, etc., however, if Michigan does jump on the blood train of wolf hunting and trapping, I'm afraid my support for Michigan will have to cease (as I have done with Wyoming) on the moral objection that wolves do not need "management" via lethal methods; and, in fact, have been managing themselves quite well for hundreds of thousands of years.

Wolf and wildlife supporters, which number in the millions, have been watching and monitoring the wolf hunts (massacres) which are now raging in Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, and I can tell you that these states will by boycotted and I can also attest that the wolf hunts are driven by special interest groups, and blood lust for a new "game" animal (which the wolf is NOT....he is a top tier predator, as you know).

There are documented photographs and posts from public forums of the brutality and excess cruelty victimizing wolves at the hands of lesser people who have bragged about 'gut shooting' wolves (so they will die harder), the brutalization of trapped wolves, poisoning of wolves, piercing wolves with arrows, abuse of wolf tags (not reporting all killed wolves), killing wolf pups, etc, etc. The List is Long and Speaks Shamefully of the Human Condition!

I am hoping that Michigan will step up to the plate and be the shining beacon of leadership for the Great Lakes states, as an example of non-lethal management and respect for Native Americans who also have a spiritual connection to the wolf and regard the wolf as brethren.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration in this urgent matter. PLEASE VOTE 'NO' ON SB 1350 !!!!

Sincerely, Ricki Newman Newburgh, IN

From:

Pam Sordyl <psordyl01@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 1:48 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

Please Vote No on SB 1350

House Natural Resources, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Committee,

Please vote no on SB 1350 which adds wolfs to the game list.

As Michigan residents who travels regularly up north including places like Pictured Rocks and Mackinac Island, my husband and I are always concerned about the welfare of wild life including wolves. We would like to see the Wolf Management Roundtable manage the wolf population as they have a more broad representation that will ensure the wolf will thrive and have a future here in Michigan.

Last week, I met a tribal member who was representing five tribes in Michigan who are opposed to this approach. It is troubling to know we are taking away from them again with little regard to their culture. We need to follow their lead and learn to cooperate on issues that impact so many residents.

Please give the experts a chance to manage the wolves so we can show other states how to effectively and humanely manage wildlife.

## Pam Sordyl

8758 Deerwood Road Clarkston, Mi 48348 c: 734-718-7100

h: 734-828-1400

From:

Pam Sordyl <psordyl01@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 1:49 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

My Testimony for Tomorrow's Committe Hearing

Mr. Mead,

I do plan to attend the hearing tomorrow and provide my testimony to the committee. Please distribute my lettter below. Thank you

---- Forwarded Message -----

To: "dmead@house.mi.gov" <dmead@house.mi.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 3, 2012 1:47 PM Subject: Please Vote No on SB 1350

House Natural Resources, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Committee,

Please vote no on SB 1350 which adds wolfs to the game list.

As Michigan residents who travels regularly up north including places like Pictured Rocks and Mackinac Island, my husband and I are always concerned about the welfare of wild life including wolves. We would like to see the Wolf Management Roundtable manage the wolf population as they have a more broad representation that will ensure the wolf will thrive and have a future here in Michigan.

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## Pam Sordyl

8758 Deerwood Road Clarkston, Mi 48348 c: 734-718-7100

h: 734-828-1400

From:

juliet Pearson <julietjohns@mac.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 1:50 PM

To:

David Mead

Subject:

PLEASE VOTE 'NO' ON SB 1350 !!!!

## To Whom it May Concern;

Although I am a non-resident of the great state of Michigan--I have visited and have family in Northern Michigan. I would like to continue to tour in your state and continue to support your major consumer products, such as Kellogg's, GM, Chrysler, Whirlpool/Amana, etc., however, if Michigan does jump on the blood train of wolf hunting and trapping, I'm afraid my support for Michigan will have to cease on the moral objection that wolves do not need "management" via lethal methods; and, in fact, have been managing themselves quite well for hundreds of thousands of years.

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We have documented photographs and posts from public forums of the brutality and excess cruelty victimizing wolves at the hands of lesser people who have bragged about 'gut shooting' wolves (so they will die harder), the brutalization of trapped wolves, poisoning of wolves, piercing wolves with arrows, abuse of wolf tags (not reporting all killed wolves), killing wolf pups, etc, etc. The list is long and speaks shamefully of the human condition.

We will be releasing as much as possible, as soon as possible to the major press outlets.

We are hoping that Michigan will step up to the plate and be the shining beacon of leadership for the Great Lakes states, as an example of non-lethal management and respect for Native Americans who also have a spiritual connection to the wolf and regard the wolf as brethren.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration in this urgent matter. PLEASE VOTE 'NO' ON SB 1350 !!!! Sincerely,

Sent from my iPad

From:

Bill Zaagman <zaagman.w@gcsionline.com>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 1:21 PM

To:

Rep. Holly Hughes; Rep. Kurt Damrow; Rep. Joel Johnson; Ryan Earl; Rep. Wayne

Schmidt (District 104); Rep. Peter Pettalia; Rep. Matt Huuki; Rep. Dian Slavens (District

21); Rep. Tim Bledsoe (District 1)

Cc:

Kelly Hamilton; Stephen Daunt; David Mead; Rep. Frank Foster

Subject:

MHS Letter on SB 1350 -- Wolf hunting season

Attachments:

Chair Foster HB5834 Ltr 101512.pdf

Please find that attached letter from the Michigan Humane Society regarding the creation of a gray wolf hunting season. Although the letter references House Bill 5834, the letter applies to Senate Bill 1350 which is scheduled for a hearing in Natural Resources tomorrow. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Thanks, Bill Zaagman



William T. Zaagman Governmental Consultant Services Inc. One Michigan Avenue Building 110 N. Washington Square, Ste. 120 Lansing, Michigan 48933

Cell: 517/525-7297 Office: 517/484-6216 Fax: 517/484-0140

Zaagman.w@gcsionline.com www.gcsionline.com



October 10, 2012

The Honorable Representative Frank Foster Chair, House Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909

Berman Center for Animal Care 900 N. Newburgh Rd. Westland, MI 48185 734 721 7300

Dear Representative Foster and Honorable members of the Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee;

Detroit Center for Animal Care 7401 Chrysler Dr Detroit, MI 48211 313.872.3400

M

The Michigan Humane Society (MIIS) is the state's largest animal welfare organization and also one of the largest in the nation. As a private nonprofit operating three busy animal care centers, three veterinary care centers, seven satellite adoption centers, and nationally-recognized cruelty investigation and emergency rescue teams in the metropolitan Detroit area, we assist tens of thousands of pets and wild animals annually. We hold a license from the MDNRE to rehabilitate injured and orphaned wildlife, and received 1,207 wild animals in the most recent fiscal year. MHS is not affiliated with any national humane organization, and is funded by private donations from more than 83,000 Michigan residents.

Rochester Hills Center for Animal Care 3600 W Auburn Rd Rochester Hills, MI 48309 248 852,7420 We are writing at this time with regard to House Bill 5834, which would establish a hunting season on the Gray Wolf. Our leadership role in the state frequently finds us representing animal welfare groups on state committees for the MDNRE, MDARD, and other agencies. We had the opportunity to serve in 2006 on the Michigan Wolf Management Roundtable, and helped to forge a document to guide the MDNRE in developing a management plan for this majestic species in advance of its expected delisting under the Endangered Species Act. Now, post-delisting, we serve as members of the more recently-formed MDNRE Wolf Forum.

m

When we served as a member of the Roundtable, we worked collaboratively with other Roundtable stakeholder groups, including hunting groups, to craft recommendations that would allow the appropriate address of conflicts between wolves and humans, using non-lethal approaches first, whenever possible. We supported the use of lethal control of specific problem wolves or packs only when non-lethal approaches have failed or human safety dictates. The Roundtable further agreed that "setting numeric goals for wolf abundance at large geographic scales...would be inappropriate...and should be avoided."

Administration 30300 Telegraph RrI Suite 220 Bingham Farms MI 48005 246 283,1000

Eij

The gray wolf was delisted only a few short months ago. Our constituents have a great interest in seeing the continued strong recovery of this elusive native canine. We ask you review and strongly consider the thoughtful recommendations of the Wolf Management Roundtable, especially those dealing with the non-lethal remedies to control the wolf population

1-866-MHUMANE www.michiganhumane.o.g

Sincerely.

Linda Reider Director of Statewide Initiatives Michigan Humane Society

Cc: Honorable Representative Matt Huuki Bill Zaagman, GCSI; MHS Lobbyist

From:

cathy and bernie <winmil@cheqnet.net>

Sent:

Monday, December 03, 2012 1:17 PM

To:

David Mead

please do not make the mistake wi made and open up wolf hunting . there is NO biological or ecological reason to hunt these animals. these animals do not belong to the hunters! this would Never pass with a referendum . It is bad politics and dividing people! please stop this slaughter before it starts! cathy miller

From:

Cinzia Rossi <cici4ever@hotmail.it>

Sent: To:

Monday, December 03, 2012 1:09 PM

Subject:

Rep. Frank Foster; David Mead; Rep. Kevin Daley (District 82); Cath Petroskey I beg you to NOT kill wolves!

Please do not allow the law to kill wolves, these creatures are endangered and are not mean at all, only the hunters wa Caporali Cinzia